

agree upon certain ground rules. The rules limit consideration of bills placed on the Private Calendar only shortly before the calendar is called. This agreement adopted on June 17, 1997, the Members of the Majority Private Calendar Objectors Committee have agreed that during the 105th Congress, they will consider only those bills which have been on the Private Calendar for a period of 7 days, excluding the day the bill is reported and the day the calendar is called. Reports must be available to the Objectors for 3 calendar days.

It is agreed that the majority and minority clerks will not submit to the Objectors any bills which do not meet this requirement.

This policy will be strictly enforced except during the closing days of a session when the House rules are suspended.

This agreement was entered into by: The gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. SENSENBRENNER], the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. COBLE], the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. GOODLATTE], the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BOUCHER], and the gentlelady from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO].

I feel confident that I speak from my colleagues when I request all Members to enable us to give the necessary advance consideration to private bills by not asking that we depart from the above agreement unless absolutely necessary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. KINGSTON addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

VOLUNTEER SUMMIT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the House tonight to inform my colleagues of a very exciting opportunity taking place in my district, the 13th District of Pennsylvania. We are going to be hosting the Montgomery County Promise, which is an extension of the President's summit.

As my colleagues may know, the President's summit took place in April, and here in my district we are going to be having a followup summit September 19 and 20 at the Fort Washington Expo Center at Fort Washington, PA.

This should be an exciting opportunity for all civic, governmental, educators, clergy, everyone from all walks of life to participate in by gathering the top public and private sector volunteer activists to focus our already exciting and active volunteer base in Montgomery County, to focus in on the most important issues facing us for the next decade.

I joined today in announcing this with some very important people from Montgomery County who will be at the forefront in making sure the plans for

this event take place in a very professional way and, most important, involve our youth in making a lasting difference in their lives.

Dr. Norah Peters of Beaver College, of Pennsylvania, in Glenside, who is an expert in the field of voluntarism and has conducted extensive research on the subject for the past 15 years. She joins Betty Landman, the President of the university, in working with us on this important event.

We also have Louise Elkins, from the Volunteer Center from southeast Pennsylvania, and Mary Mackie, the director of community services for the United Way of southeastern Pennsylvania.

We were also joined by Clarence Rader, who has been very active as the leading light in the Business/Industry School and Partnership program, and has been very active in the business circles of Montgomery County in Pennsylvania.

Richard Byler from the Community Action Development Commission, Major Carl Carvill of the Salvation Army, Joanna Smith of the Association of Retarded Citizens of Montgomery County, Linda Millison of the Retired Senior Volunteer program, Bertha Johnson and Cathie Randall from Head Start.

All these individuals have worked together for our mission to promote improved collaboration among community-based organizations, schools, corporations, the media, communities of faith, and government to make Montgomery County a better place for our youth.

The enthusiasm we have in moving forward these goals cannot be emphasized enough. The goal is by the end of the year 2000 that thousands of more young people will have access to all five fundamental resources that will maximize their success: First, an ongoing relationship with a caring adult; safe places and structured activities; a healthy start; marketable skills; and opportunities to give back to the community.

Among the cosponsors already committed to this important function are the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, the Lutheran Brotherhood, the Indian Creek Foundation, the Foster Grandparent program and numerous hospitals. Those interested in serving can contact us through the Montgomery County Promise, P.O. Box 26, Norristown, PA, 19404, or contact the office at 610-275-4460.

I should point out that our major goal is not only to have more people volunteer but to have more of our youth take an active voice in congressional activities, governmental activities and community activities, and to establish permanent mentoring programs in the various professions and businesses throughout our State.

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And also develop for the first time under one roof where all the volunteer groups, over 600 volunteer groups and

800 nonprofits, can meet for the first time in an opportunity to exchange ideas, to have forums, to have our keynote speakers, and to have demonstration programs where we will show within the community just how much spirit and enthusiasm we have to make sure our youth have the chance to become the leaders they want to be to achieve vocationally, educationally and in every way possible the kind of life where they can be all they can be.

We look forward to an exciting event, and we hope that other Members of the House will do similar in the sense that they will have their own follow-through summits based on the President's summit we had in Philadelphia.

THE REPUBLICAN TAX CUT PLAN AND THE BUDGET BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, tonight I would like to talk about two issues which I believe are related. First is the analysis, if you will, of the Republican tax cut plan, which I believe mainly benefits the wealthy and how the Democratic alternative is much better for the average family, the average middle-income family in this country; all of this, of course, in the context of the budget bill and the efforts we are now making in committee and eventually on the floor next week to work out a budget bill and the tax cuts that are a part of that budget bill.

Second, following up on what I spoke about earlier today during morning hour, what happened with regard to Medicare in the matter of MSA's, or medical savings accounts, being incorporated in the Medicare Program as part of this budget package to the detriment I believe of the Medicare Program and, at the same time, the Republican leadership's failure to provide funding for low-income people who currently receive Medicaid funding to pay for their Medicare part B premium. All of this is in the overall context of the budget bill.

As my colleagues know, when we passed the budget resolution about a week or two ago, it was pretty much a bipartisan vote. I voted for the budget resolution because I am very concerned that we need to balance the budget, we need to be concerned about spending and we certainly, at the same time, need to provide some tax cuts or tax breaks to the average American. And so, as a whole, the budget resolution seemed to make sense.

However, what happens is that after the budget resolution passes, both the House and the Senate and eventually the President have to get together on an implementation bill, if you will, that will show where spending takes place, where tax cuts take place, what kinds of changes are going to take